



# First Presbyterian Church

## Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024, 11:00 AM

\* Indicates that those who are able may stand

**Bold type is spoken by the people.**

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Pentecost Offering

*Sidonie Sansom*

VOLUNTARY:

Because He Lives

*Bill and Gloria Gaither  
Anna Kaye Samon, soloist*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

*Gabrielle Pate, Liturgist*

ONE: We come to God, our holy shepherd, as we come to a green meadow.

**ALL: God prepares a place for us, and we give glory in God's presence.**

ONE: How excellent is this dwelling place under the eyes of God's care.

**ALL: We turn to God in joy. Our good shepherd provides for all our needs.**

\*OPENING HYMN:

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

**#610**

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ONE: The Spirit of God helps us in our weakness, interceding with sighs too deep for words. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin, saying...

**ALL: O God, you have called us to love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. You have laid down your life for us and commanded us to lay down our lives for one another. Still, O Lord, we offer empty thoughts and prayers when the world needs our hands and our feet. Still, O Lord, we fail to share our lives with the world, hiding behind a myth of independence. Forgive us, we pray, and by your forgiveness, raise us to new life in you. Amen.**

### SILENT PERSONAL CONFESSION

\*RESPONSE HYMN:

Lord Have Mercy Upon Us

**#575**

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ONE: Hear the good news of God's promise: I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh. Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

\*GLORIA PATRI

#581

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;**

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen!**

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

*Rev. Katie Ory*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON:

Acts 4:5-12

**P.113**

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON:

1 John 3:16-24

**P.226**

ONE: This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM:

I Carry You In My Heart

*Donna Butler*

*Text: Philippians 1 and e. e. cummings*

I carry you in my heart; I carry you in my heart.

For your light and love made my soul to sing

Like the quiet winter warms to spring.

And I carry your heart with mine; I carry your heart with mine.

I thank my God for ev'ry thought of you.

I carry you in my heart; I carry you in my heart.

You are part of God's perfect mystery,

For the way you live helps me to see.

And I carry your heart with mine; I carry your heart with mine.

I thank my God for ev'ry thought of you.

And this is the root of the root, and this is the bud of the bud,

And the sky of the sky, of a tree called life, which grows and grows.

Because of you my heart can love still more.

THIRD SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 10:11-18

**P.97**

SERMON:

*Rev. Michael McLaughlin*

SERMON HYMN

Though I May Speak (The Gift of Love)

**#693**

\*COMMUNAL AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Confession of 1967, 9.22*

**New life in Christ takes shape in a community in which people know that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are. They therefore accept themselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God's grace. Amen.**

\*GREETINGS

After an exchange of Peace between the Pastor and the Congregation, we encourage you to greet one another. The Greetings will conclude with the first verse of *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*.

ONE: ...The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**ALL: And also with you.**

**Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;  
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.**

**#306**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

ONE: ... By your grace, O God,

**ALL: raise us from death to life.**

**ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO GIVING

OFFERTORY

Voluntary in G Major

*Samuel Jackson*

OFFERING

\*DOXOLOGY

**#606**

**ALL: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*CLOSING:

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

**#187**

\*BENEDICTION

ONE: ...Alleluia!

ALL: Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

*Alfred V. Fedak*

# REGULAR WEEKLY CALENDAR

## SUNDAY CALENDAR

- **Religion and Culture Class** – 9:30am-10:30am, in Room 6 and on Zoom.
- **Higher Grounds Café** – 9:30am-11am, in the Fellowship Hall.
- **Adult Morning Bible Study.** 10am-10:45am, in the Library.
- **Nursery** - 10:45am-12:15pm - Ages 5 and under.
- **Children’s Church** - 11:15am, in Room 16
- **Youth Group** – 5-7pm in the Fellowship Hall.

## WEDNESDAY CALENDAR

- **Wednesday Night Gathering**– 5:15pm dinner, 6pm lesson/activities begin.
- **Choir Rehearsal** – 7:30pm, in the Sanctuary.

## BIRTHDAYS:

GAYOSO, Estela	04/06	MCLAUGHLIN, Madeline	04/21
KIBBONS, Joane	04/06	TRENT, Shella Beth	04/22
RICH, Sue	04/11	ORY, Katie	04/23
WILLIAMS III, Malcolm	04/18	HOLLAND, Jonathan	04/25
BUTLER, Chet	04/20	MCCORMICK, Annabelle	04/27

## STAFF:

The Rev. Michael D. McLaughlin.....	Lead Pastor
The Rev. Katie Ory.....	Dir. TTU PSA, Dir. Children & Youth Ministry
Paul Thurmond.....	Director of Music
Virginia Fillers.....	SoulSong Coordinator
Amy Ainsley.....	Administrative Assistant

## ELDERS:

2024: Beverly Cardinal, Pat Wilhelm  
2025: Dina Smith, Rick Woods  
2026: Cade Arnold, Josh Doré

## DEACONS:

2024: Sam Glasgow, Sidonie Sansom, Diana Dugle  
2025: Ginny Butler, Chris McCormick, Erica Scott  
2026: Michelle Doré, Michelle Fields, Stacey Trent

**AUDIO/VISUAL TECHNICIAN:** True McLaughlin